



CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
Department for Medicaid Services
Division of Long Term Care and
Community Alternatives

Ernie Fletcher
Governor

275 E. Main Street, 6W-B
Frankfort, KY 40621
(502) 564-7540
Fax: (502) 564-0249
www.chfs.ky.gov

James W. Hoisinger, Jr., M.D.
Secretary

June 8, 2005

Nursing Facility Provider Letter # A-217

Dear Nursing Facility Provider:

This letter provides policy guidance regarding "certified through dates" for Medicaid payment of services. Patient status confirmation notices and continued stay review sheets will now have a "certified through date" for each resident. Providers can identify a resident's certification number expiration date.

Upon a new admission, a pre-cert nurse with NHS will give a facility a thirty (30) day certification period for a resident who meets the criteria for nursing facility patient status. Initially, an on-site nurse will visit the facility within that thirty (30) day period to verify documentation that the resident continues to meet nursing facility patient status. If approved, the facility will receive a second confirmation notice that includes a new "certified through date".

Each Medicaid resident must be reviewed for patient status determination at least every six (6) months for the facility to continue billing Medicaid. An on-site nurse will notify a facility of his or her date of visit to review an accurate resident listing with valid certification numbers.

If a resident is not included on the listing provided by the facility, the resident will not be reviewed and their "certified through date" will expire. If this occurs, the facility must contact NHS for a new patient status determination to be made as soon as possible. Any time period from the expired "certified through date" and the day that NHS is notified will not be covered by Medicaid for payment of services provided. NHS shall not backdate any expired certification periods. A facility must be aware of each resident's "certified through date" to ensure they can bill and receive Medicaid payment.

If at the time of an initial onsite visit, a resident is out of the facility and the on-site nurse is not able to complete a review, the on-site nurse will contact the facility weekly for the resident's return to conduct the initial continued stay review. If the resident remains out of the facility beyond the "certified through date", then a new patient status determination shall be required by contacting NHS.



Provider Letter # A-217

Page 2

June 8, 2005

Please alert your staff to accurately track expiration dates and valid certification numbers. If a resident's "certified through date" expires, a facility cannot bill for the services provided. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Montfort, RN at 502-564-5707.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angela G. Kirkland", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Angela G. Kirkland, M.A.
Director

Cc: Sherilyn Redmon